

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 18214 01 OF 02 221413Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 SAJ-01 IO-10 ACDA-05 /072 W

----- 074965

R 221358Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6407

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 18214

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, GWA UK, UR

SUBJECT: FRG-GDR BORDER SURVEY

REF: BONN 16496

SUMMARY: BRITISH HAVE BRIEFED FRENCH AND US IN TRI-PARTITE MEETING ON CURRENT PROBLEM REGARDING MARKING BY FRG-GDR BORDER COMMISSION OF FRG-GDR BOUNDARY IN OLD UK ZONE. END SUMMARY.

1. PROBLEM IS WHETHER BOUNDARY SHOULD RUN IN RIVER OR ALONG GDR BANK FOR A 43.4 KILOMETER STRETCH OF THE ELBE RIVER LYING BETWEEN LAUENBURG AND SCHNACKENBURG. ORIGIN OF DISPUTE IS 1945 UK-USSR AGREEMENT THAT THAT PART OF HANNOVER PROVINCE ON EAST SIDE OF ELBE WOULD BECOME PART OF SOVIET ZONE (UK AT SAME TIME RECEIVED TWO SMALL AREAS FROM SOVIET ZONE NEITHER OF WHICH FACES THE ELBE OR HAS CAUSED PROBLEMS IN MARKING THE FRG-GDR BOUNDARY). JUSTIFICATION FOR TRANSFER OF THE HANNOVER PROVINCE AREA TO THE SOVIET ZONE WAS THAT THE ELBE FORMS

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 18214 01 OF 02 221413Z

A NATURAL BOUNDARY AND THAT THE BRIDGES PROVIDING ACCESS

HAD BEEN DESTROYED IN THE WAR THUS MAKING ADMINISTRATION OF AREA BY UK FORCES DIFFICULT.

2. THE UK-USSR AGREEMENT AS REPORTED IN CONL/P(45)5 (JULY 25, 1945) REFERS TO "THAT PART OF REGIERENBEZIRKE LUNEBURG LYING IN THE PROVINCE OF HANNOVER LYING EAST OF THE RIVER ELBE." UK "NOTES ON CHANGES IN THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN THE RUSSIAN AND BRITISH ZONE" OF JULY 27, 1945 SAYS THE ORIGINAL ZONAL "BOUNDARY RUNS EAST OF THE RIVER ELBE, THUS INCLUDING IN THE UK ZONE A STRIP OF COUNTRY 20 MILES LONG AND SIX MILES WIDE, AT ITS WIDEST POINT, SEPARATED FROM THE REMAINDER OF THE ZONE BY A BROAD RIVER . . . IT WAS AGREED AT A CONFERENCE BETWEEN THE C OF S UK ZONE AND MARSHAL ZHUKOV AT BERLIN ON JUNE 29, 1945 THAT THIS AREA SHOULD BE TAKEN OVER BY THE RUSSIANS. IT WAS TAKEN OVER BY THE RUSSIANS ON JULY 4, 1945."

3. UK INTEREST IS TO REMOVE ITSELF FROM A WEST GERMAN DOMESTIC SQUABBLE AND TO KEEP FROM BECOMING INVOLVED IN FRG-GDR TASK OF MARKING BOUNDARY. UK UP TO TIME OF TURNOVER OF ZONAL BORDER RESPONSIBILITIES TO FRG HAD PATROLLED ENTIRE WIDTH OF ELBE IN AREA IN QUESTION AND, ACCORDING TO UK REP, HAD ADVISED FRG TO CONTINUE THIS PRACTICE. FRG, HOWEVER, APPARENTLY DID NOT. BONN GOVERNMENT IS NOW IN DIFFICULT POSITION OF BEING PERFECTLY HAPPY TO ACCEPT ELBE CHANNEL AS FRG-GDR BOUNDARY IN THE AREA (AND IT HAS MADE CERTAIN CORRESPONDING INDICATIONS IN BORDER COMMISSION TO GDR) BUT BEING AT SAME TIME FACED WITH PRESS AND OPPOSITION OUTCRY CHARGING BONN WITH INTENT TO "MAKE THE FRG SMALLER BY FOUR SQUARE KILOMETERS" (ONE-HALF OF THE RIVER BED ALONG THE 43.4 KILOMETER STRETCH). A HANDFUL OF COMMERCIAL AND SPORT FISHERMEN AND BOATING ENTHUSIASTS HAVE JOINED THE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 18214 02 OF 02 221412Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 SAI-01 IO-10 ACDA-05 /072 W

----- 074948

R 221358Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6408

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 18214

ATTACK ON THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. RESPONDING TO A QUESTION IN THE BUNDESTAG, GOVERNMENT REPS HAVE SIMPLY TAKEN THE LINE THAT FRG NEGOTIATING POSITION IN DELICATE TALKS WITH GDR CANNOT BE MADE PUBLIC, THAT THE FRG IN THE BORDER COMMSSION WILL TAKE ACCOUNT OF FRG NATIONAL INTERESTS AND THOSE OF PEOPLE LIVING IN THE AREA, BUT THAT FRG IN WORK OF MARKING BOUNDARY WITH GDR IS TIED BY PAST AGREEMENTS OF OCCUPATION POWERS. THE UK, AT THE SAME TIME, IS MAINTAINING ITS POSITION THAT DEMARCATION OF BOUNDARY IS UP TO FRG AND GDR.

4. COMMENT: BONN HAS TAKEN MUCH HEAT IN RECENT WEEKS ON THIS ISSUE AND IS ATTEMPTING TO DEFLECT IT IN DIRECTION OF FORMER OCCUPATION AUTHORITIES. TROUBLE IS, UK DOCUMENTS AND PAST ACTIONS SEEM TO SUPPORT OPPOSITION AND PRESS INSISTENCE THAT EASTERN BANK OF ELBE IS CORRECT BOUNDARY FOR THE STRETCH IN QUESTION, AND HOW FRG WILL BE ABLE TO HARMONIZE THIS WITH ITS OWN INDICAFION
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 18214 02 OF 02 221412Z

TIONS TO GDR THAT MID-STREAM PROBABLY AGREEABLE IS AN OPEN QUESTION. REGARDING ANY POSSIBLE SIMILAR PROBLEMS AND ON CONANT-ADENAUER LETTER OF MAY 11, 1953 (AGSEC(53)417) WHICH LISTED THE FEW MINOR US-USSR AGREED BOUNDARY MODIFICATIONS, EMBASSY BELIEVES WE CAN BE AT EASE.
HILLENBRAND

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BOUNDARY DETERMINATION, BERLIN TRIPARTITE MATTERS, BOUNDARIES, BERLIN FOUR POWER OCCUPATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BONN18214
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740340-0276, D740339-0097
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741121/aaaaarsn.tel
Line Count: 163
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: BONN 16496
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 APR 2002 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <14-Aug-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRG-GDR BORDER SURVEY
TAGS: PFOR, US, GE, UK, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005